

RESOLUTION NO. 9596-R33

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE PROPOSED SOUTH SUBURBAN AIRPORT  
IN PEOTONE

WHEREAS, the City of Urbana is committed to maintaining quality air service for the Champaign County area; and

WHEREAS, the health of Willard Airport is key to the economic, viability, and stability of Champaign County; and

WHEREAS, the combination of changing and reduced airline operations and the closer proximity of the proposed South Suburban Airport would further erode passenger air service operations at Willard Airport; and

WHEREAS, the diversion of State dollars from the State's road fund to be concentrated in the Peotone area will almost certainly lead to inadequate infrastructure maintenance and development in other areas of the State; and

WHEREAS, concentrating a disproportionate amount of the State's economic resources in the Chicago area would place the remainder of the State at an economic disadvantage; and

WHEREAS, State Illinois Department of Transportation dollars being diverted to the development of the South Suburban Airport would certainly distract from critically needed funds for the continuation of State support for rail service throughout the remainder of the State; and

WHEREAS, Champaign County's Willard Airport is indirectly owned by the State of Illinois through the University of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the almost certain erosion of capabilities and activities at Willard Airport due to the South Suburban Airport will compromise its use as an incentive for technology transfer spinoff development to those corporations and individuals wishing to take advantage of the technology transfer opportunities at the University of Illinois thus compromising the State's investment in the University of Illinois's increased initiatives in the area of technology transfer.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS, as follows:

Section 1. The City of Urbana cannot support the proposed South Suburban Airport unless the following issues are resolved:

- A. A comprehensive study to identify the potential impact of the South Suburban Airport on downstate communities is undertaken and a specific plan is adopted to mitigate any detrimental effects.

- B. A comprehensive state-wide transportation plan that takes into account the need for access to the South Suburban Airport from downstate population centers is undertaken.
- C. Access to high speed, efficient, dependable rail transportation to and from the South Suburban Airport from Champaign County is developed.
- D. State support for an alternate and or expanded mission for Willard Airport is given.

PASSED by the City Council this 1st date of April, 1996.

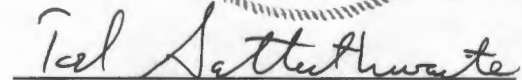
**AYES:** Hayes, Kearns, Patt, Pollock, Ryan, Taylor

**NAYS:**

**ABSTAIN:**

  
Phyllis D. Clark, City Clerk

APPROVED by the Mayor this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1996.

  
Tod Satterthwaite, Mayor